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JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

REGENTS

OF THE

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

AT

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,

BEGINNING ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1846.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY JOHN T. TOWERS.

1846.

OFFICERS.

Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS, *Chancellor*.
Hon. WILLIAM W. SEATON, }
Hon. ROBERT DALE OWEN, } *Executive Committee*.
Col. JOSEPH G. TOTTEN, }
Prof. JOSEPH HENRY, *Secretary*.
BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Esq., *Assistant Secretary*.

REGENTS.

EX OFFICIO.

Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS, Vice President of the United States, Pa.
Hon. ROGER B. TANEY, Chief Justice of the United States, Md.
Hon. WILLIAM W. SEATON, Mayor of the City of Washington.

SENATORS.

Hon. GEORGE EVANS, Gardiner, Maine.
Hon. ISAAC S. PENNYBACKER, New Market, Virginia.
Hon. SIDNEY BREESE, Carlyle, Illinois.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Hon. ROBERT DALE OWEN, New Harmony, Indiana.
Hon. WILLIAM J. HOUGH, Cazenovia, New York.
Hon. HENRY W. HILLIARD, Montgomery, Alabama.

CITIZENS AT LARGE.

Hon. RUFUS CHOATE, Boston, Massachusetts.
Hon. RICHARD RUSH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Hon. GIDEON HAWLEY, Albany, New York.
Hon. WILLIAM C. PRESTON, Columbia, South Carolina.
Hon. ALEX. DALLAS BACHE, National Institute, Washington.
Col. JOSEPH G. TOTTEN, National Institute, Washington.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
AT THEIR FIRST MEETING.

At a meeting of the Board of Regents of the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, held at the City of Washington, on Monday, the 7th day of September, Anno Domini 1846—Present :

Hon. GEO. M. DALLAS, *Vice President of the United States.*

Hon. R. B. TANEY, *Chief Justice.*

Hon. WM. W. SEATON, *Mayor of the City of Washington.*

Hon. GEORGE EVANS, *Senator.*

Hon. ISAAC S. PENNYBACKER, *Senator.*

Hon. ROBERT DALE OWEN, *Representative.*

Hon. WM. J. HOUGH, *Representative.*

Hon. HENRY W. HILLIARD, *Representative.*

Hon. RUFUS CHOATE, *of Mass., citizen at large.*

Hon. GIDEON HAWLEY, *of New York, citizen at large.*

Hon. RICHARD RUSH, *of Penn., citizen at large.*

Hon. ALEXANDER DALLAS BACHE, *National Institute.*

Col. JOSEPH G. TOTTEN, *National Institute.*

For the purpose of a preliminary organization of said Board, Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS was appointed President, and Hon. WILLIAM J. HOUGH, Secretary.

It was

Resolved, That the President appoint a suitable person Door-keeper, who shall also act as Messenger of said Board, during the present session.

Whereupon, the President appointed William McPeak Door-keeper and Messenger.

It was

Resolved, That the Rules and Orders of the Senate of the

United States be adopted as the Rules and Orders for the government of this Board, until others shall be adopted in their stead.

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Institution, hereafter to be elected, procure, from the Department of State, a copy of the joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress, by which a portion of the Regents of this Institution were appointed; and that he also procure, from the Secretary of the Senate and from the Clerk of the House of Representatives, respectively, a certificate of the appointment of the Regents from their respective Houses, and file the same in the office of the Secretary of said Institution.

It was

Resolved, That all further action of this Board in relation to the election of officers be postponed until to-morrow.

It was

Resolved, That, when this Board adjourn, it adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Whereupon, on motion, the Board adjourned.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1846.

The Board of Regents met pursuant to adjournment.

Present, the same Regents named in yesterday's proceedings, except Mr. TOTTEN, who is absent in consequence of sickness.

It was

Resolved, That the Board proceed to elect a Chancellor.

The Board then proceeded to the election of a Chancellor, by ballot, and, upon counting the ballots, it appeared that Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS was elected.

Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the Hon. GEORGE M. DALLAS be, and he is hereby, declared to be unanimously elected Chancellor of the Board of Regents and of the Smithsonian Institution.

It was

Resolved, That the Board proceed to elect a member thereof Secretary of said Board of Regents and of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Board then proceeded to the election of a Secretary, by ballot ; and, upon counting the ballots, it appeared that WILLIAM J. HOUGH was elected.

Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That WILLIAM J. HOUGH be, and he is hereby, declared to be elected Secretary of the Board of Regents and of the Smithsonian Institution.

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary do now prepare six ballots, on two of which the word "two" shall be written, on two others the word "four," and on the remaining two the word "six ;" and that each of the Regents appointed by joint resolution of Congress of the 10th August, 1846, draw one of said ballots ; and the Regents who draw the ballots with the word "two" thereon shall hold their offices of Regents for the term of two years ; the Regents who draw the ballots with the word "four" thereon shall hold their offices for the term of four years ; and the Regents who draw the ballots with the word "six" thereon shall hold their offices for the term of six years, in conformity with the act to establish the "Smithsonian Institution for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men," approved August 10, 1846.

It was

Resolved, That the Chancellor draw the ballot for any Regent who is not present.

The ballots were prepared and drawn, as provided in the foregoing resolutions, and resulted as follows :

Mr. CHOATE drew for two years.

Mr. HAWLEY drew for two years.

Mr. RUSH drew for four years.

Mr. TOTTEN drew for four years.

Mr. BACHE drew for six years.

Mr. PRESTON drew for six years.

The Board then proceeded to the election of an Executive Committee, by ballot ; and, upon counting the ballots, it appeared that Mr. OWEN, Mr. SEATON, and Mr. TOTTEN were elected.

Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That WILLIAM W. SEATON, ROBERT DALE OWEN, and JOSEPH G. TOTTEN be, and they are hereby, declared duly elected Executive Committee.

It was then

Resolved, That WILLIAM W. SEATON be, and he is hereby, appointed Chairman of said Executive Committee.

It was further

Resolved, That the Chairman of the Executive Committee be the disbursing officer, for the payment of the expenses of the Regents, and other contingent and incidental expenses of the sessions of the Board, and be authorized to receive from the proper officer of the Treasury Department whatever sum may be certified by the Chancellor and Secretary to be necessary for that purpose.

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to employ a Recording Clerk, as an assistant in the discharge of his duties, whose compensation shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

[In compliance with the seventh section of the act of Congress establishing the Smithsonian Institution, and with the foregoing resolution, the Secretary appointed BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Esq., Assistant Secretary and Recording Clerk of the Institution.]

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to procure a book, in which the proceedings of the Board shall be recorded, and a description of the site selected by the Board, set out by metes and bounds, shall be made and signed by the Regents present, and shall have also appended the assent of the President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Commissioner of the Patent Office to the same. And the Secretary shall also record in the same the will of James Smithson ; the original act of Congress accepting the trust ; the law establishing the existing Institution ; the resolution of Congress appointing Regents of the Smithsonian Institution ; also, the certificates of the Secretary of the Senate and

of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, respectively, as to the Regents appointed from their respective Houses.

It was

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chancellor, from the members of the Board, to digest a plan to carry out the provisions of the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution, and that they report the same to the next meeting of the Board.

Whereupon, the Chancellor appointed Mr. OWEN, Mr. HILLIARD, and Mr. BACHE said Committee.

The following preamble and resolution were offered and agreed to:

Whereas, the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution prescribes an appropriation, not exceeding an average of twenty-five thousand dollars annually, for the gradual formation of a Library, composed of valuable works pertaining to all departments of human knowledge, Therefore—

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed, to prepare a report upon the subject of the formation of such a Library, indicating its general character, and the modes of proceeding to accumulate it, and to present such report at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Whereupon, the Chancellor appointed Mr. CHOATE, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. RUSH said Committee.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1846.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present the same Regents as yesterday.

Mr. OWEN presented to the Board, in behalf of David D. Owen, M. D., of Indiana, a plan, drawings, and specifications of a building for said Institution.

Mr. OWEN also presented a plan and drawings for the same from Mr. Robert Mills, Architect, of Washington City.

It was

Resolved, That the Chancellor and Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents,

be, and they are hereby, authorized and instructed to take such measures as may be deemed by them most proper to obtain plans for the erection of buildings, fulfilling all the conditions in reference to them contained in the law organizing this Institution ; and that said Committee report such plan as they may approve to this Board, at its next meeting ; and further, that said Committee specially report in regard to the best material for said buildings, and to the best modes of warming, lighting, and ventilating the same, with estimates of the cost when constructed of different materials ; and that they further report in regard to such other matters as they may consider important in the premises.

It was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Board be offered to David Dale Owen, M. D., of Indiana, for the plans of buildings for the Smithsonian Institution, presented on his behalf ; and that said plans, with the correspondence explanatory of the same, and any other plans which may be presented to this Board, be referred to the Committee just named.

It was

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to report at the next session are authorized to purchase such works, per account of the Board, on Architecture, Bibliography, and the like, as they may deem necessary to enable them to perform the duties of their appointment ; to visit any structures and collections in this country ; and also to avail themselves of the suggestions of other skilful persons, and to offer therefor, if necessary, such remuneration as the Regents may choose subsequently to make.

It was

Resolved, That the regular meetings of the Board of Regents shall be on the second Wednesday of December, and the third Wednesday of February, in each year ; and on the first Wednesday of June, in each alternate year, commencing with the first Wednesday of June, in the year 1848.

It was

Resolved, That Mr. Rush be a Committee to ascertain, through the Solicitors formerly employed by him on behalf of the United

States, in the suit to obtain the Smithsonian bequest, or otherwise, whether Madame de la Batut still survives ; and if not, what steps are necessary to be taken to obtain the fund reverting to the United States at her death ; being a portion of the original property of James Smithson retained by the English Court of Chancery, in order to furnish, in the shape of interest, an annuity to the said Madame de la Batut. And, further, in case the said Madame de la Batut survives, to adopt measures by which her decease may be communicated to the Board, whenever that event may occur. And that Mr. Rush report to the Executive Committee the legal charge thus incurred, which the said Committee is hereby authorised to pay.

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to contract for the printing, on good paper, and in a neat pamphlet form, of two hundred and fifty copies of the original law accepting the trust, and the law of last session organizing the Institution ; the pamphlet also to include the names and residences of the present Board of Regents ; and that six copies be sent to each of the Regents, and to each member of the establishment.

It was

Resolved, That the subject of the selection of a site be referred to the Committee on the Buildings constituted at this meeting, to report at an adjourned meeting of this Board.

It was

Resolved, That when this Board adjourn it adjourn to meet at the Vice President's room, in the Capitol, in the City of Washington, on the last Monday of November next, at 12 o'clock, noon.

It was

Resolved, That Mr. CHOATE and Mr. PENNYBACKER be added to the committee appointed yesterday to digest a plan to carry out the provisions of the act establishing the Smithsonian Institution.

It was

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested, without unnecessary delay, to collect, on behalf of the Institution, all the docu-

ments, Congressional and others, connected with the history of the Smithsonian bequest, and of its legislation, and cause them to be substantially bound, as a commencement of its Library.

William Archer, Esq., Architect, of the City of Washington, presented to the Board a plan and drawings for a building for the Institution, together with specifications and estimates of cost, &c. which was referred to the Committee on Buildings.

And then, on motion, the Board adjourned until the last Monday in November next.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1846.

Agreeably to their adjournment on the 9th day of September last, a meeting of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution was held at the room of the Vice President of the United States, in the Capitol.

GEORGE M. DALLAS, the Chancellor, (and one of the Regents,) and the following Regents appeared, viz : WILLIAM W. SEATON, ISAAC S. PENNYBACKER, SIDNEY BREESE, ROBERT DALE OWEN, WILLIAM J. HOUGH, HENRY W. HILLIARD, RICHARD RUSH, GIDEON HAWLEY, ALEXANDER DALLAS BACHE, and JOSEPH G. TOTTEN.

At 12 o'clock, meridian, the Chancellor took the Chair, and called the Regents to order.

The journal of proceedings of the last two days of the last session were read.

MESSRS. HOUGH, SEATON, TOTTEN, RUSH, and the CHANCELLOR, each presented sundry letters, recommendations, &c., relative to applications for the office of Secretary of the Institution ;

Which were severally placed upon file for future consideration.

MR. RUSH presented a letter from Miss Legaré, sister of the late Hugh S. Legaré, asking the Regents to purchase the library left by her brother ;

Which was placed upon file for future consideration.

THE CHANCELLOR, from the committee appointed at the last session of the Board of Regents, "to obtain plans for the erection of buildings," to consider as to materials, the warming and lighting the buildings, &c., made a report, accompanied by sundry letters from Mr. OWEN to Mr. SEATON, giving a detailed account of the examinations made by himself, Mr. HOUGH, and Mr. TOTTEN, as a sub-committee, in Philadelphia, New York, and Boston ; and from Mr. David Dale Owen, Professors Sillman and Fowler, in relation to the selection of material for the erection of the Institution Building ; and, also, accompanied by the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution do select and adopt, as a site for their buildings, so much of the mall,

in the City of Washington, as lies between Seventh street and the river Potomac, if the consent of the persons named in the fourth section of the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men be obtained thereto; and that, upon such consent being obtained, in due form, the Secretary is hereby instructed to cause the said ground, so selected, to be set out by proper metes and bounds.

The report and letters having been read, were placed upon file.

The resolution accompanying the report was then taken up for consideration, and, pending the question on the adoption thereof,

On motion of Mr. BREESE,

Ordered, That when the Board adjourn, it will adjourn to meet at 12 o'clock to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. BREESE,

The Board adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock meridian.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1846.

Mr. EVANS, one of the Regents, appeared.

The Chancellor laid before the Regents the following letter from Chief Justice TANNEY, a Regent of the Institution :

BALTIMORE, *November 28, 1846.*

DEAR SIR: I regret that it will not be in my power to attend the meeting of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, on Monday next. The Circuit Court for the district of Maryland has been in session since the beginning of this month, and must continue in session all of next week, in order to dispose of the business before it. Be good enough to mention to the Board the cause of my absence, and believe me to be,

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. B. TANNEY.

GEORGE M. DALLAS,

Vice President of the United States, Washington.

Mr. OWEN presented a letter from J. Renwick, jr., of New York, describing and commenting upon the materials used in building in the city of New York ;

Which was read, and placed upon file.

Mr. BREESE presented sundry letters and recommendations relative to applications for office, agencies for the purchase of books, &c. ;

Which were placed on file for future consideration.

Mr. RUSH, from the Committee appointed to ascertain whether Madame de la Batut still survives, and, if not, what steps are necessary to obtain the remainder of the Smithsonian fund, reverting to the United States at her death ; and, if she is still living, what steps are necessary to obtain the fund at her death—made a report thereon, in part, stating that he had written to Messrs. Clarke, Fynmore & Fludgate, Solicitors, residing in London, making the proper inquiries, but had yet received no answer.

A copy of his letter to them was submitted, read, and put on file.

Mr. OWEN, from the Committee on the Organization of the Institution, made a report, accompanied by a series of resolutions, which were read.

On motion of Mr. OWEN, the consideration of the resolutions was postponed until to-morrow.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the resolution pending yesterday, when the Board adjourned.

Mr. SEATON proposed that the same be amended, by inserting, after the word "Potomac," the following :

"Intending to authorize the erection of a monument to George Washington, by the Washington Monument Association, on a part of the said site which lies between Fourteenth street and the river."

Mr. EVANS moved that the said amendment be amended by substituting therefor the following :

"Subject to the power of Congress to grant any portion of the same west of Fourteenth street to the Washington Monument Society, for the purpose of erecting a monument thereon."

And the question being put on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. EVANS, it was decided in the affirmative.

The amendment, as amended, was then agreed to, and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

And so it was

Resolved, That the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution do

select and adopt, as the site for their buildings, so much of the Mall, in the City of Washington, as lies between Seventh street and the river Potomac, subject to the power of Congress to grant any portion of the same west of Fourteenth street to the Washington Monument Society, for the purpose of erecting a monument thereon, if the consent of the persons named in the fourth section of the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution, for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men, be obtained thereto ; and that, upon such consent being obtained in due form, the Secretary is hereby instructed to cause the said ground, so selected, to be set out by proper metes and bounds.

On motion of Mr. EVANS,

Ordered, That the Committee on the selection of a site be instructed to wait upon the President of the United States, and lay before him a certified copy of said resolution ; and that the Secretary communicate a copy of the same to each of the officers mentioned in the act of Congress establishing the Institution.

On motion of Mr. EVANS,

Ordered, That the Chancellor and each Chairman of a Committee be a Committee to prepare "a report of the operations, expenditures, and condition of the Institution," for submission to Congress, agreeably to the third section of the act establishing the same.

On motion of Mr. SEATON,

The Board adjourned until to-morrow at 12 o'clock meridian.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1846.

Mr. CHOATE, one of the Regents, appeared.

Mr. OWEN presented sundry applications for the office of Secretary of the Institution, which were placed on file, for future consideration.

Mr. OWEN presented a letter from A. Randall, of the city of St. Louis, asking that the time fixed by the Building Committee of the Board of Regents for the furnishing plans for the Building, may be extended ;

Which letter was placed on file.

Mr. OWEN presented a letter from Nahum Capen, of Boston, suggesting the formation of a statistical department of the Institution ;

Which was placed on file, for future consideration.

Mr. BACHE presented a paper, signed by members of the American Philosophical Society, recommending Titian R. Peale as a person eminently qualified to take charge of the collections of the Institution ;

Which was placed on file, for future consideration.

A motion was made by Mr. BREESE to reconsider the vote by which the Board yesterday adopted the resolution selecting and adopting a site for their buildings.

After debate,

The motion of Mr. BREESE was postponed until to-morrow.

The resolutions reported yesterday by Mr. OWEN, from the Committee on Organization, came up in order for consideration.

At the suggestion of Mr. CHOATE, that he wished to examine the report accompanying them,

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

They were further postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. BREESE offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That, at one o'clock P. M. to-morrow, the Board will proceed to the election of a Secretary of the Institution.

Which was read, and,

On motion of Mr. BREESE,

Laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. HOUGH,

The Board adjourned until to-morrow, at 12 o'clock meridian.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1846.

The CHANCELLOR laid before the Board the following communication from the Assistant Secretary :

OFFICE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.

December 3, 1846.

Sir : Having been appointed Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in September last by the Secretary (Hon. Mr.

Hough) the performance of all the duties of Secretary in this city, in his absence, devolved upon me.

As it may, at some future period, be important, if it is not now, that the Regents should be informed of my official action, I most respectfully submit the following statement.

By direction of the Secretary, I caused sundry official documents relative to the Institution, together with the proceedings of the first meeting of the Regents, to be recorded in a large Record book, marked A. As this labor was performed in a manner exceedingly creditable to the person who performed it, I will take the liberty to say that it was done by Adam J. Glossbrenner, Esq., of Pennsylvania, a Clerk in the office of the House of Representatives.

In conformity with the special direction of the Regents at their first meeting, and at the request of the Secretary, I collected all the printed documents in relation to the bequest of James Smithson, and caused them to be handsomely and strongly bound in a volume, which I have taken the liberty to present to the Institution.

Up to the day on which the present session commenced, twenty-four volumes of books and seven pamphlets came into my possession for the Institution—some of them as presents, others under the copyright provision of the tenth section of the act of Congress establishing the Institution.

Since the session commenced, two volumes of books and one pamphlet have been presented.

The following is a complete list of the books now in my possession :

A collection of the Documents of Congress, relating to the Bequest of James Smithson, 1 vol.—presented by B. B. French.

A Catalogue of Books for sale in Paris by Hector Bossange, with the prices of each, 1 vol.—presented by Franck Taylor.

Voyage et de couverté de quelques pays et nations de L'Amerique septentrionale, par Le P. Marquette et Sr. Joliet. A reprint fac simile, by O. Rich & Sons of London, 1 vol.—presented by O. Rich & Sons of London.

Bibliotheca Americana Nova. O. Rich, London, 2 vol.—presented by O. Rich.

Immortality—a Poem, by Rev. Phineas Robinson, A. M., 1 vol. presented by the Author

Trees of America by D. J. Brown, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Eclogues and Georgics of Virgil, by Chas. Anthon, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

A Greek and English Lexicon, based on the works of Francis Passow, by H. G. Siddell and Robert Scott, with corrections, additions, &c., by Henry Drisler, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Altowan—edited by J. Watson Webb, 2 vols.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Lectures to Women, by Mary S. Gove, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Etchings of a Whaling Cruise, by J. Ross Browne, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

A practical treatise on Dyeing and Calico printing, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

An Elementary Treatise on Mensuration and Practical Geometry, by William Vogdes, 1 vol.—E. C. & J. Biddle, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

The Medical Formulary by Benjamin Ellis, M. D., 1 vol.—Lea & Blanchard, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

The writings of Hippocrates and Galen, by John Redman Coxe, M. D., 1 vol.—Lindsay & Blakiston, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Questions on the 1st Epistle to the Corinthians by, Albert Barnes, 1 vol.—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

An elementary Treatise on Algebra by Samuel Alsop, 1 vol.—E. C. & J. Biddle, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Sermons of the late Nicholas Snethen, 1 vol.—by the Author, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Micellanies, by Wm. Collins, 2d edition, 1 vol.—presented by the Author.

Astronomical Observations for 1845, 1 vol.—presented by Lieut. M. F. Maury, U. S. N., and Superintendent Washington Observatory.

A Treatise on the Criminal Law of the United States, by Francis Wharton, 1 vol.—Jas. Kay, Jr. & Brother, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Reports of cases argued and determined in the Supreme Court of Illinois, by Charles Gilman, vol. 1.—Newton & Flagg, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Reports of Cases decided in the Court of Appeals and in the General Court of Virginia, by Peachy R. Grattan, vol. 2—by the Author, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Reports of Cases adjudged in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, by Henry J. Sergeant, vol. 11—James Kay, Jr. & Brother, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

PAMPHLETS.

The evils suffered by American Women and American Children, the causes and the remedy, an Address by Miss C. E. Beecher—Harper & Brothers, in compliance with 10th section of Act.

Hints to wards the developement of Unitary Science, or Science of Universal Analogy, by George Coraelius—presented by the Author.

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences, No. 24, new series for October, 1846—Lea & Blanchard.

The Power of Kindness, by C. Morley—received by mail, directed to me, without any explanation.

English Grammar simplified by D. A. French—presented by the Author.

Catalogue of the Durazzo Library of Geneva—presented by C. Edwards Lester.

Graham's American Monthly Magazine, No. 201, for November, 1846—presented by J. Fennimore Cooper, it containing the commencement of a tale entitled "The Islets of the Gulf," by him, *copyright secured*.

I acknowledged the receipt of each of the foregoing books by letter, addressed through the mail to the person who sent it.

Accompanying the *Bibliotheca Americana Nova*, from O. Rich, Esq., of London, is a note addressed to the Regents, in which he offers his services in supplying any books they may require from England or any part of Europe.

Mr. Rich also addressed a note to me making substantially the same offer, to which I replied, presenting my thanks as Assistant Secretary for the books sent, and promising to bring the subject to the attention of the Regents at this meeting.

Many letters have been addressed to me in relation to the Institution, making many inquiries, but not as I deemed of a nature to make them official.

Every letter received has been answered, giving all the information in my possession as to the subjects inquired about.

With the best wishes for the perfect success of the Institution,

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

B. B. FRENCH, *Assistant Secretary*.

HON. GEORGE M. DALLAS,

Chancellor of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The CHANCELLOR also presented a letter from Alexander Jones to the Assistant Secretary, asking to be appointed Agent of the Institution in New York, for receiving and forwarding books ;

Which was read and placed on file.

MR. OWEN presented letters recommending sundry persons for the Secretaryship of the Institution ;

Which were placed on file for future consideration.

MR. CHOATE, from the Committee appointed at the meeting of the Regents in September, in relation to the formation of a Library, made a report, accompanied by resolutions, which were read.

On motion of MR. OWEN, the resolutions accompanying the report made by him from the Committee on Organization, were taken up for consideration.

MR. OWEN moved that the Board proceed to consider the resolution relative to the qualifications of Secretary and numbered 13 ;

Which motion was agreed to.

The said resolution was then read as follows :

[No. 13.] *Resolved*, That it is essential for the advancement of

the proper interests of the trust, that the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution be a man possessing weight of character and a high grade of talent; and that it is further desirable that he possess eminent scientific and general acquirements; that he be a man capable of advancing science and promoting letters by original research and effort, well qualified to act as a respected channel of communication between the Institution and scientific and literary individuals and societies in this and foreign countries; and, in a word, a man worthy to represent, before the world of science and of letters, the Institution over which this Board presides.

And the question being put on agreeing to the same,
It was decided in the affirmative.

The remainder of the resolutions were then postponed for the present.

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

The resolution offered by Mr. BREESE yesterday, relative to the election of a Secretary, was taken up.

Mr. BREESE modified the same to read as follows:

Resolved, That the Board will proceed, forthwith, to the election of a Secretary of the Institution;

And, as thus modified, it was agreed to.

The Board then proceeded to elect a Secretary by ballot, when it appeared that there were twelve votes cast, of which

Professor Joseph Henry had	-	7
Francis Markoe, Jr. had	-	4
Dr. Pickering had	-	1

Whole number,	-	12
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Necessary to a choice,	-	7
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Professor JOSEPH HENRY, of Princeton, in the State of New Jersey, having a majority of all the votes given in, was declared by the CHANCELLOR duly elected Secretary of the Institution.

And, thereupon,

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

It was unanimously

Resolved, That the Board approve the election of Professor

HENRY as Secretary of the Institution, and invite him to assume the duties of that office.

Ordered, That Mr. FRENCH continue to act as Assistant Secretary until the Secretary elect shall appear, and enter upon his duties.

On motion of Mr. EVANS,

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the motion made by Mr. BREESE yesterday, that the vote by which the resolution adopting a site for the buildings of the Institution, be reconsidered.

And the question being put,

Will the Board reconsider the said vote ?

It was decided in the negative.

So the said resolution stands adopted.

On motion of Mr. EVANS,

Ordered, That when the Board adjourn to-day, it adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. BREESE,

The Board adjourned until 10 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1846.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions accompanying the Report of the Committee of Organization ; when

The following of the said resolutions (numbered as they were reported) were read, and agreed to, viz :

[No. 3.] *Resolved*, That the Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of War, and of the Navy, of the United States, be respectfully invited to furnish to consuls and other public officers, in this and foreign countries, under their respective Departments, such suggestions as they may deem proper, in regard to the procurement, as opportunity offers, of additions to the Museum of the Institution, especially to its Ethnological Department ; that three hundred copies of this report, when printed, be placed at the disposal of each of the above-named Secretaries, as an explanation to these public functionaries of the views of the Institution in regard to a Museum ; and that five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of the accruing interest, to pay transportation,

or other expenses connected with the transmission from foreign parts to Washington, of any collections thus made. And to such contributions, when placed in the Museum, the name of the officer obtaining and forwarding the same shall, in all cases, be appended.

[No. 4.] *Resolved*, That the Secretary of War be respectfully invited to furnish to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs such suggestions as he may deem proper regarding the procurement, from the Indian country, of collections for the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, illustrating the natural history of the country, and, more especially, the physical history, manners, and customs of the various tribes of aborigines on the North American Continent; that one hundred copies of this Report, when printed, be placed at his disposal, as a means of informing the various Indian Agents of the special character of the collections desired; and that the sum of five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby, annually appropriated, out of the accruing interest of the Smithsonian Institution, for the procurement and transportation of such Indian collections; and, when placed in the Museum, there shall be appended to each the name of the agent through whom the same may be procured.

[No. 5.] *Resolved*, That the public generally be invited to furnish contributions to the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution; and that all such contributions, when considered worthy of a place, shall be labelled with the name and residence of the donor.

[No. 6.] *Resolved*, That ten copies of the Report accompanying these resolutions be furnished to each member of the Senate and House of Representatives, and that each member be respectfully requested to transmit these to newspapers and to individuals, in his district or elsewhere, who may be likely to take interest in the proceedings of the Institution.

[No. 12.] *Resolved*, That, for the year eighteen hundred and forty-seven, the sum of one thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, for laying out the grounds of the Institution, and for the purchase, transplantation, and temporary fencing of the trees therein, to be expended under the direction of the Executive Committee.

[No. 15.] *Resolved*, That of this Report, in such form as it may be ultimately adopted, five thousand copies be printed, under the direction of the Secretary ; and that he be required to transmit a copy of the same to each of the principal Scientific and Literary Societies, both in this and in other countries ; and also to such individuals, of Scientific or Literary reputation, as he may judge likely to find interest in the proceedings of the Institution.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution :

[No. 1.] *Resolved*, That, for the present, out of the interest accruing to the Institution, the sum of twenty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, for the purchase of books and the gradual fitting up of a Library, and all other incidental expenses relating to the Library, except the salaries of the Librarian or Librarians ; the said appropriation to commence from the first of January, eighteen hundred and forty-eight.

A motion was made by Mr. HOUGH that the same be amended, by striking out "twenty thousand dollars," and inserting "*twelve thousand dollars.*"

Which motion was disagreed to.

Mr. RUSH moved that "twenty thousand dollars" be stricken out, and "*fifteen thousand dollars*" inserted.

Which motion was disagreed to.

The question was then put,

Will the Board agree to the resolution ?

And was decided in the affirmative.

The following resolution was then read, and agreed to, viz :

[No. 2.] *Resolved*, That the portion of the Building to be for the present set apart for a Library be of sufficient capacity to contain not less than one hundred thousand volumes ; and that it is desirable that the plan should be such as to render an extension practicable, if hereafter desired.

The following resolution was then read, and agreed to, viz :

[No. 11.] *Resolved*, That, for the present, the sum of four thousand dollars, out of the interest accruing to the Institution, be appropriated, for the purchase of philosophical and chemical apparatus,

models, &c. ; the said appropriation to commence on the first day of January next.

The following resolution was then read, and agreed to, viz :*

[No. 7.] *Resolved*, That it is expedient to include, ultimately, in the plan of the Institution, popular lectures on useful subjects—as on agriculture and its latest improvements ; on the productive arts of life ; on the sciences, and the aid they bring to labor ; on common school instruction, including the proper construction of school rooms, the most improved apparatus for teaching, and the most judicious management, moral and intellectual, of children in common schools ; also, if suitable lecturers be found, on history, natural and civil, including the physical history of the various races of men, and the gradual advance of each to its present state of civilization ; on political economy, in its practical connexion with the every day business of life ; and generally, on any department of useful knowledge not strictly professional.

The following resolutions, Nos. 8, 9, 10, and 14, were read, and upon suggestions that it was desirable that the Secretary elect should be consulted before their adoption, they were postponed until the next meeting of the Board of Regents :

[No 8.] *Resolved further*, That if the funds of the Institution permit, it is desirable that such lectures should be delivered, not only at Washington, but gradually and successively, at different points in all the States of the Union, either by permanent professors, or temporary lecturers, engaged on behalf of the Institution.

[No. 9.] *Resolved*, That if the funds of the Institution permit, there may be properly included in the plan, the publication, periodical or otherwise, of popular tracts on the above subjects.

[No. 10.] *Resolved*, That as one of the most effectual means of increasing knowledge among men, it shall be made a part of the duty of one or more of the officers, who may be engaged by the Institution, to institute original researches in the branch of science to which he may be devoted ; and that it shall be the duty of the Secretary, when such researches eventuate successfully, to com-

*See page 29, where this resolution is considered as postponed.

municate the results to other scientific societies throughout the world ; and to invite, in return, communications of a similar character from them.

[No. 14.] *Resolved*, That in case of the organization of a Board of Professors, the said Secretary shall be, *ex officio*, President of the said Board of Professors, with the usual rights and powers of the President of a Faculty ; and as President of said Board, it shall be his privilege, when thereto authorized by said Board, to make on their behalf, any statement or representation to the Board of Regents, either written or verbal, and if any debate or discussion arise thereupon in the Board of Regents, he shall have the right to join therein ; but, in all cases, without a vote in said Board of Regents.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions reported yesterday by Mr. CHOATE from the Committee on the formation of a Library, which were read, and agreed to, as follows :

[No 1.] *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, forthwith to employ, subject to the approval of the Board of Regents, an Assistant Secretary, well qualified to discharge the duties of Librarian.

[No. 2.] *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed, in conjunction with the Secretary, to prepare and submit to this Board, extended lists of books in the different departments of learning proper to be first purchased, according to the general principles of this report ; and for this purpose, that they be authorized to request the aid of the Librarian and of other persons competent to afford it, and to engage to such person the honor of the Board for discretionary remuneration of such aid.

Mr. CHOATE, Mr. HILLIARD, and Mr. RUSH were appointed the said committee.

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

Resolved, That the salary of the Secretary, appointed under the 13th resolution reported by the Committee on Organization, and adopted by the Board on the 3d instant, be three thousand five hundred dollars per annum, to commence from the date of his acceptance of the office.

Resolved, That, until a permanent residence be provided for the Secretary in the buildings to be erected, a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, annually, be appropriated to pay the rent of his residence.

On motion of Mr. BREESE, the Board adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1846.

The CHANCELLOR laid before the Board a letter from Walter R. Johnson, of the city of Philadelphia, tendering his services for the department of Physical science, embracing Philosophy and Chemistry, with their applications ;

Which was read, and placed on file for future consideration.

The CHANCELLOR also presented a letter from John Jay, of New York, accompanied by a recommendation of members of the Historical Society, of John Romeyn Brodhead, as Secretary of the Institution, which was placed on file.

Mr. BACHE presented a letter from B. F. French, of the city of New Orleans.

Mr. OWEN offered the following resolution, which was read, considered, and agreed to, viz :

Resolved, That the Assistant Secretary cause one thousand copies of the Journal of the Board of Regents from the commencement of its organization to the close of this meeting, to be printed in the same form as the pamphlet already printed by this Board, and that he forward twenty-five copies thereof to each of the Regents.

Mr. TOTTEN offered the following resolution, which was read, considered, and agreed to unanimously :

Whereas, the present meeting of the Board may probably be the last at which the services of Mr. Hough, Regent, from New York, as Secretary, will be required,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Board are respectfully offered to that gentleman for the prompt, valuable, and disinterested service he has rendered as Secretary.

On motion of Mr. BACHE,

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be authorized to arrange with the Secretary the time and manner of the discharge of the duties enjoined on him by law, and by the resolutions of the Regents.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chancellor, to procure the introduction, if they deem it expedient, of a bill amendatory of the act establishing this Institution.

Mr. OWEN, Mr. HOUGH, and Mr. EVANS were appointed the said committee.

It having been suggested by Mr. EVANS, that, on the minds of one or more of the Regents, a doubt existed as to the passage of the resolution, No. 7, in yesterday's proceedings, or whether it was not to be considered as among those postponed until the Board could meet again, and avail itself of the advice of the Secretary elect,

It was unanimously ordered, that it be considered as among the postponed resolutions, and it was postponed accordingly, till the next session.

The following is the resolution referred to :

Resolved, That it is expedient to include, ultimately, in the plan of the Institution, popular lectures on useful subjects; as on agriculture and its latest improvements; on the productive arts of life; on the sciences, and the aid they bring to labor; on common school instruction, including the proper construction of school rooms, the most approved apparatus for teaching, and the most judicious management, moral and intellectual, of children in common schools; also, if suitable lecturers be found, on history, natural and civil, including the physical history of the various races of men, and the gradual advance of each to its present state of civilization; on political economy, in its practical connexion with the every day business of life; and, generally, on any department of useful knowledge not strictly professional.

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution be entitled to participate in the deliberations of the Board of Regents, but without vote.

On motion of Mr. EVANS,

Ordered, That when this Board adjourns to day, it adjourn to meet on the second Wednesday of this month, at the room of the Vice President of the United States, in the Capitol, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Board then adjourned accordingly.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,

AT THEIR SECOND MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1846.

This being the second Wednesday of December, the Board of Regents met, pursuant to their resolution of the 9th day of September last, fixing their regular meetings.

Present—GEORGE M. DALLAS, Chancellor, WM. W. SEATON, GEORGE EVANS, ROBERT DALE OWEN, WILLIAM J. HOUGH, RICHARD RUSH, JOSEPH G. TOTTEN.

The number fixed by the act establishing the Smithsonian Institution as a quorum being five, a quorum was in attendance.

At 11 o'clock, A. M. the Chancellor took the chair and called the Board to order.

Mr. HOUGH, from the Committee appointed to wait on the President of the United States, and the other persons named in the fourth section of the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution, and obtain their written consent to the selection and appropriation of the public reservation called the "Mall," west of Seventh street west, in the City of Washington, by the Regents, as a site for the necessary buildings for said Institution, reported :

That on the fifth day of December instant, he called upon the President of the United States and the other persons named in said fourth section of the act establishing said Institution, and solicited their assent to the selection and appropriation by said Regents of all that portion of said reservation lying west of Seventh street west, in said city, as a site for the necessary buildings for said Institution, pursuant to the resolution of the Board of Regents heretofore passed making such selection and appropriation ; but

that he was unable to obtain the consent of all of said persons, although a portion of them signified their readiness to give such consent; and that inasmuch as it seemed necessary that the assent of each and all of said persons be obtained to the validity of such selection and appropriation, the Committee did not deem it of importance to obtain the written consent of such of said persons as signified their willingness to the same, not being able to procure the whole. The Committee, therefore, submit the following resolution for the consideration of the Regents, and recommend the passage thereof.

The said resolution was then read and adopted as follows :

Whereas, the consent of all the persons named in the fourth section of the act to establish the Smithsonian Institution has not been obtained to the selection and appropriation of the public reservation called the "Mall," west of Seventh street west, in the City of Washington, by the Regents, as a site for the necessary buildings of said Institution. Therefore—

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chancellor to confer with the President of the United States and the other persons named in the fourth section of said act, and ask their consent to the selection by said Regents of that portion of said reservation lying between Seventh and Twelfth streets west, in said city, as the site for the necessary buildings of said Institution, and if such consent be given,

It is further Resolved, That said buildings be located thereon, and at least two hundred and fifty feet south of the centre thereof.

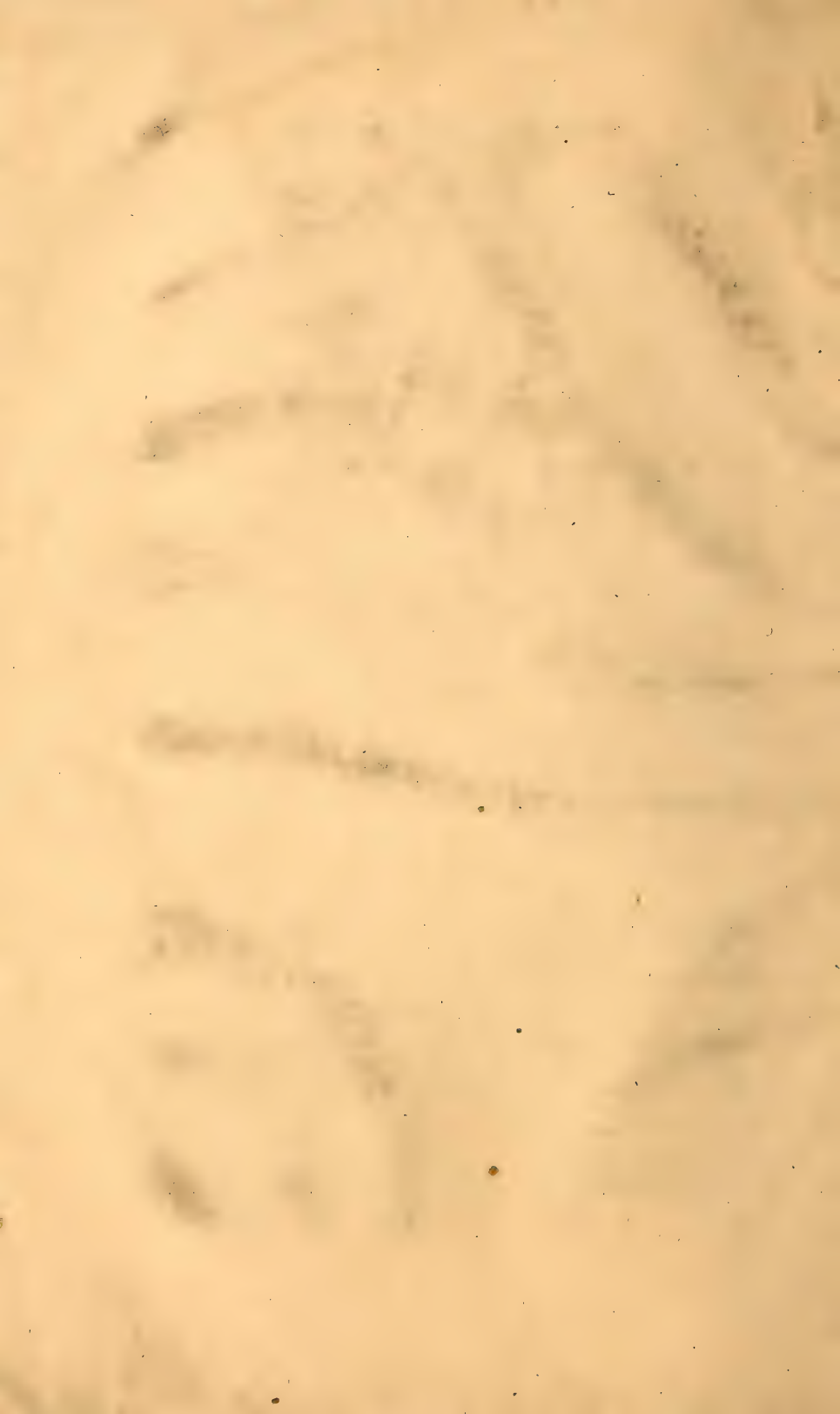
Mr. HOUGH, Mr. OWEN, and Mr. EVANS were appointed the said Committee.

Mr. SEATON presented a communication from Mr. George Catlin, accompanied by a printed catalogue of his Indian Gallery, offering his collection of Indian memorials to the Smithsonian Institution, which was referred to the Committee on the formation of a Library.

On motion of Mr. OWEN,

Ordered, That when this Board adjourn to-day, it adjourn to meet on Monday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.







Syracuse, N. Y.

Stockton, Calif.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES



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